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DESCRIPTION

The journal is concerned with extending and integrating the understanding of the interfaces and interplay between “nature's household” (ecosystems) and “humanity's household” (the economy). Ecological economics is an interdisciplinary field defined by a set of concrete problems or challenges related to governing economic activity in a way that promotes human well-being, sustainability, and justice. The journal thus emphasizes critical work that draws on and integrates elements of ecological science, economics, and the analysis of values, behaviors, cultural practices, institutional structures, and societal dynamics. The journal is transdisciplinary in spirit and methodologically open, drawing on the insights offered by a variety of intellectual traditions, and appealing to a diverse readership.

Specific research areas covered include: valuation of natural resources, sustainable agriculture and development, ecologically integrated technology, integrated ecologic-economic modelling at scales from local to regional to global, implications of thermodynamics for economics and ecology, renewable resource management and conservation, critical assessments of the basic assumptions underlying current economic and ecological paradigms and the implications of alternative assumptions, economic and ecological consequences of genetically engineered organisms, and gene pool inventory and management, alternative principles for valuing natural wealth, integrating natural resources and environmental services into national income and wealth accounts, methods of implementing efficient environmental policies, case studies of economic-ecologic conflict or harmony, etc. New issues in this area are rapidly emerging and will find a ready forum in Ecological Economics.

Ecological Economics Sections

All submissions to Ecological Economics are reviewed using the general criteria of quality, creativity, originality, accuracy, and contribution to the field. There are several categories of articles to allow for a full range of constructive dialogue.

News and Views

Topical and timely short pieces reviewed by the editor and/or one outside reviewer at the editor's discretion. May include editorials, letters to the editor, news items, and policy discussions. Maximum 1500 words (600 words for letters).

Commentary

Essays discussing critical issues. Reviewed by two outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward quality of the exposition and importance of the issue. Maximum 5000 words.

Surveys
Examination and review of important general subject areas. Reviewed by two outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward importance of the subject and clarity of exposition. Maximum 8000 words.

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Research articles devoted to developing new methodologies or investigating the implications of various ideological assumptions. Reviewed by two outside reviewers with criteria weighted toward originality and potential usefulness of the methodology or ideological option. Maximum 8000 words.

Analysis
Research articles devoted to analysis of important questions in the field. Reviewed by two outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward originality, quality, and accuracy of the analysis, and importance of the question. Maximum 8000 words.

Book Reviews
Reviews of recent books in the field. Reviewed by one outside reviewer with criteria weighted toward clarity and accuracy of the review, and importance of the book to the field. Maximum 1200 words.

AUDIENCE
Ecologists, Economists, Biologists, Nature Conservationists.

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Commentaries are essays discussing critical issues. They are reviewed by two outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward quality of the exposition and importance of the issue. 4000 words or 12 double-spaced pages.

Surveys examine and review important general subject areas. They are reviewed by two outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward importance of the subject and clarity of exposition. 8000 words or 25 double-spaced pages.

Manuscripts devoted to Methodological and Ideological Options develop new methodologies or investigate the implications of various ideological assumptions. They are reviewed by two outside reviewers with criteria weighted toward originality and potential usefulness of the methodology or ideological option. These should not exceed 8000 words or 25 double-spaced pages.

Research articles devoted to analysis of important questions in the field are reviewed by two outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward originality, quality, accuracy of the analysis, and importance of the question. Maximum 8000 words or 25 double-spaced pages.

Reviews of recent books in the field are reviewed by one outside reviewer with criteria weighted toward clarity and accuracy of the review and importance of the book to the field. The maximum length for book reviews is 1200 words or 4 double-spaced pages.

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